

JUL 30 1984

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*WM 10/11/16
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 623-SS*

Dr. Dae Chung
 Staff Scientist
 Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
 Livermore, California 94550

Dear Dr. Chung:

In accordance with Task 2 of Contract No. A0294, I request that you initiate a limited review of the following sections of the draft environmental assessments for the Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations (NNWSI) Project¹ and the Basalt Waste Isolation Project (BWIP)²:

- 3.1.1 - 3.1.2 (NNWSI only), 3.1 - 3.2 (BWIP only)
- 4.1.1
- 5.2.1, - 5.2.2 (NNWSI only), 5.2.1.1 - 5.2.1.2 (BWIP only)
- 6.2.1.6, 6.3.1 - 6.3.4, 6.4.2

The review should be limited because it is anticipated that a subsequent set of drafts will be issued next month with significant revisions, particularly to Chapters 4 and 5. The purpose of the review at this time is to become familiar with the form of the document and to identify those sections which contain information on the geology in general and on the seismo-tectonic aspects in particular. The review should concentrate on Chapters 3 and 6 with a lesser amount of time devoted to Chapters 4 and 5. The following is a summary of the manner in which the NRC anticipates these documents will be reviewed:

- Chapter 3 - The general site description is to be reviewed to determine if, based on available data, the seismological and tectonic elements in the geologic description presented are correct, complete and justified.
- Chapter 6 - With emphasis on, but not limited to 10 CFR 960.4-2-7, and 960.5-2-11, the review of the suitability of the sites should focus on both known and suspected features within the geological setting which could affect waste isolation.

1 U.S. Department of Energy, June 1, 1984, "Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations Project, NWSA Environmental Assessment", Draft

2 U.S. Department of Energy, July 1984, "Untitled Chapters 2-6, Glossary, and Reference

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In all cases, a comment by itself is not acceptable. Either a reference or a reason must be given for each comment. In addition, primary emphasis should be given to comments which deal with public health and safety. Additional guidance is given in Section 4.2 of the EA review plan while Table 7 presents the exact required format.

At this time, no more than 1 man week per site should be necessary for this review with 1 additional man week for coordination, editing, and typing of the final letter report. Because of time limitations, I request that LLNL complete and submit the letter report four (4) weeks after the receipt of this task.

The action taken by this letter is considered to be within the scope of the current contract (A-0294). No change to costs or delivery of contracted products is authorized. Please notify me immediately if you believe this letter would result in changes to costs or delivery of contract products.

I will be pleased to answer any questions on this task and I can be reached at 427-4597 FTS.

Michael E. Blackford, Project Manager
Geology/Geophysics Section
Geotechnical Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material
Safety and Safeguards

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